Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

Claims 1-18 (canceled).

19.   (new) A system in which a printer, a client apparatus and a server apparatus are connected via a network,

the client apparatus comprising:

a configuration data obtaining part configured to obtain configuration data of the printer from the printer; and

a transfer part configured to transfer the configuration data of the printer to the server apparatus,

the server apparatus comprising:

a printer driver corresponding to the printer;

a storing part configured to store the configuration data transferred from the client apparatus; and

a reading part configured to read the configuration data from the storing part based on a request by the printer driver to reflect the configuration data to the printer driver.

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20. (new) The system as claimed in claim 19, wherein the server apparatus includes a server-side API (application program interface) that is same as a client-side API used for the client apparatus to obtain the configuration data by communicating with the printer, and the server apparatus uses the server-side API to read the configuration data from the storing unit.

21. (new) The system as claimed in claim 19, wherein the client apparatus further includes a user interface for selecting a printing device from which the configuration data is obtained.

22. (new) The system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the configuration data obtained by the printer driver on the server apparatus is reflected in option setting for the selected printing device.

23. (new) The system as claimed in claim 19, wherein after the configuration data obtaining part obtains the configuration data of the printer from the printer, the transfer part automatically transfers the configuration data of the printer to the server apparatus.

24. (new) A method for maintaining consistent printer configuration data in a system in which a printer, a client apparatus and a server apparatus are connected via a network, said method comprising:

(a) obtaining, by the client apparatus, configuration data of the printer from the printer;

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(b) automatically transferring the configuration data of the printer from the client apparatus to the server apparatus, upon receiving the configuration data in (a); and

(c) causing a printer driver for the printer on the server apparatus to reflect the configuration data.

25. (new) The method as claimed in claim 24, further comprising providing a user interface for selecting a printing device from which the configuration data is obtained in (a).

26. (new) The method as claimed in claim 24, further comprising reflecting the configuration data transferred to the server apparatus to be reflected in option setting for the printer on the server apparatus.

27. (new) The method as claimed in claim 24, further comprising providing on the server apparatus a server-side API (application program interface) that is same as a client-side API on the client apparatus, for obtaining the configuration data by communicating with the printer.

28. (new) The method as claimed in claim 24, further comprising:

storing the configuration data obtained in (a), in a storage part accessible to the client apparatus and the server apparatus; and

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retrieving the configuration data from the storage part, wherein the retrieved

configuration data is utilized in (c) to reflect the configuration data in the printer driver for the

printer on the server apparatus.